DW 99-051

BEDFORD WASTE SERVICES CORPORATION

Petition for Permanent Increase in Rates Order Suspending Proposed Tariff Revisions and Scheduling Prehearing Conference

ORDER NO. 23,240

June 21, 1999

On June 7, 1999, Bedford Waste Services Corporation (Bedford) filed with the New Hampshire Public Utilities

Commission (Commission) a petition, accompanied by supporting testimony and schedules, to increase revenues effective July 1, 1999 by \$12,727. The proposal represents a 34% rate increase, or \$163 per customer per year.

The filing raises, <u>inter alia</u>, issues related to the magnitude of the proposed rate increase, cost of capital, operation and maintenance expenses and rate case expenses.

Based upon the foregoing, it is hereby

ORDERED, that the proposed tariff page of Bedford Waste Services Corp. NHPUC Tariff No. 1, Revised Page 7 be and hereby is suspended; and it is

FURTHER ORDERED, that a Prehearing Conference, pursuant to N.H. Admin. Rules Puc 203.05, be held before the Commission located at 8 Old Suncook Road, Concord, New Hampshire on July 8, 1999 at 2:00 p.m., at which each party will provide a preliminary statement of its position with regard to the petition and any of

the issues set forth in N.H. Admin Rule Puc 203.05(c) shall be considered; and it is

FURTHER ORDERED, that the Prehearing Conference may be tape recorded unless a party, at least 5 days in advance of the Prehearing Conference, requests a transcript, in which case the Commission shall order a stenographic record, pursuant to N.H. Admin. Rule Puc 203.05(d); and it is

FURTHER ORDERED, that, immediately following the Prehearing Conference, Bedford, the Staff of the Commission and any Intervenors hold a Technical Session to review the petition and allow Bedford to provide any amendments or updates to its filing, as well as to establish a proposed procedural schedule for the duration of the proceeding; and it is

FURTHER ORDERED, that pursuant to N.H. Admin. Rules Puc 203.01, Bedford shall notify all persons desiring to be heard at this hearing by publishing a copy of this Order of Notice no later than June 25, 1999, in a newspaper with statewide circulation or of general circulation in those portions of the state in which operations are conducted, publication to be documented by affidavit filed with the Commission on or before July 8, 1999; and it is

FURTHER ORDERED, that Bedford serve a summary of its proposed rate change and a copy of this Order in accordance with

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N.H. Admin. Rules Puc 1604.03(g), to each of its customers and the Bedford Town Clerk by first class U.S. mail, postmarked no later than June 25, 1999; and it is

FURTHER ORDERED, that pursuant to N.H. Admin. Rules Puc 203.02, any party seeking to intervene in the proceeding shall submit to the Commission an original and eight copies of a Petition to Intervene with copies sent to Bedford and the Office of the Consumer Advocate on or before July 5, 1999, such Petition stating the facts demonstrating how its rights, duties, privileges, immunities or other substantial interests may be affected by the proceeding, as required by N.H. Admin. Rule Puc 203.02 and RSA 541-A:32,I(b); and it is

FURTHER ORDERED, that any party objecting to a Petition to Intervene make said Objection on or before July 8, 1999.

By order of the Public Utilities Commission of New Hampshire this twenty-first day of June, 1999.

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Douglas L. Patch Chairman Susan S. Geiger Commissioner Nancy Brockway Commissioner

Attested by:

Thomas B. Getz

Executive Director and Secretary

Any individuals needing assistance or auxiliary communication aids due to sensory impairment or other disability, should contact the American with Disabilities Act Coordinator, NHPUC, 8 Old Suncook Road, Concord, New Hampshire 03301-7319; 603-271-2431; TDD Access: Relay N.H. 1-800-735-2964. Preferably, notification of the need for assistance should be made one week before the scheduled event.